OFFICE OF CITY CONTROLLER

CITY OF HOUSTON INTER OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Mayor Bill White From Annise D. Parker City Council Members City Controller

Date February 27, 2004

Subject January 2004 Financial Report

Attached is the Monthly Financial and Operations Report for the period ending January 31, 2004.

GENERAL FUND - FY 2004

General Fund revenue projections have decreased by \$4.6 million from last month. This is due to yet another increase in our sales tax estimates, offset by decreases in estimates for industrial assessment, electric franchise and telephone franchise revenues.

- The sales tax revenue projection is \$331.9 million, or \$2.4 million more than last month. Our projection is based on year-to-date receipts, which are running higher than we anticipated at the start of the fiscal year. For the remainder of FY 04 we are predicting a 2% increase over FY 03.
- The industrial assessment revenue projection is \$14.7 million. This is a decrease of \$1.3 million. Our projection is based on year-to-date collections and the latest estimate from the Harris County Appraisal District.
- The electric franchise revenue projection is \$76.2 million. This is a decrease of \$2.7 million. Our projection is based on year-to-date receipts.
- The telephone franchise projection is \$54 million. This is a decrease of \$3 million. Our projection is based on year-to-date receipts.

General Fund expenditure projections have decreased by \$5.3 million from last month. This is due to anticipated savings of \$4.8 million from a reduction in the City's costs for employee health care insurance. Under the new plan, the City's portion of the insurance premiums will decline from 88% to 80%. Our new expenditure projections also include \$500 thousand in savings from decreased departmental personnel costs resulting from attrition.

Due to the health benefits and personnel savings, we are now projecting a budget shortfall of approximately \$3.6 million. This is down from the \$5.8 million shortfall we reported in December.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOND STATUS REPORT

COMMERCIAL PAPER		Drawdowns FY04 (in millions)		Drawdowns in Jan. (in millions)		Increased Authorization/ (Refunded) (in millions)		Amount Available to be Drawn (in millions)		Amount Outstanding (in millions)	
General Obligation											
(Series A & B)											
Public Improvement Bonds	\$	37.00	\$	7.00	\$	(69.00)	\$	70.00	\$	308.30	
(Series C)	\$	2.40	\$	0.00	\$	(45.90)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	
Equipment	\$	3.10	\$	0.00	\$	(19.10)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	
Storm & Overlay											
(Series D)	\$	27.00	\$	5.00	\$	110.00	\$	235.00	\$	40.00	
(Series E)											
Downtown Streetscape	\$	(0.50)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.50	\$	5.00	
Equipment	\$	18.50	\$	0.00	\$	9.50	\$	60.50	\$	18.50	
Metro Street Projects	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	63.00	\$	63.00	\$	0.00	
Cotswald Project	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	7.50	\$	7.50	\$	0.00	
Water and Sewer (Series A & B)	\$	190.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	294.75	\$	605.25	
Aviation (Series A,B, & C)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	300.00	\$	0.00	
Convention & Entertainment (Series A)	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	0.00	\$	52.50	\$	22.50	

The City's practice has been to maintain no more than 20% of the total outstanding debt for each type of debt in a variable rate structure.

As of January 31, 2004, the ratio for each type of outstanding debt was

General Obligation	17.8%		
Water and Sewer	15.2%		
Aviation	16.0%		
Convention & Entertainment	27.1%		

Respectfully submitted,

Annise D. Parker City Controller

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